



Team looks forward to '09

By Brandi Nations

Southern Arizona Community Academy's men's basketball team recently finished the season with a record of 7-11, according to Assistant Coach José Rodriguez.

The team unfortunately missed the playoffs by one game.

Their season had many players that showed great talent during close games.

There were several games where our players had dou-

“This was a young team, and I'm hoping we all grow as a team and as players next year.”

Chris Garrett

ble digit leads against many quality teams.

Rashed Pulliam was the team's best all around player and served as a great leader.

“Many players aren't returning next year and this may affect the team's performance next year,” Pul-



Photo by Everett Grondin

Rashed Pulliam evades a Presidio defender, scoring two points in one of this season's winning games.

liam said.

Pulliam wasn't the only one getting noticed.

Jorge Atondo was selected All Conference.

This is awarded to the player who performs well on and off the court and that's just what Jorge

did.

Atondo was awarded a beautiful certificate for his triumphant effort.

The team's most improved player was Everett Grondin.

Andres Rodriguez was a steady scorer.

His points were key during close competition games.

Another player who showed a lot of team effort and support was Chris Garrett.

“This was a young team, and I'm hoping we all grow as a team and as players next year,” Garrett said.

Andres Rodriguez was a great defensive player whose efforts were noticed by many.

Next year's team is expected to come full force with a new and more experienced lineup.

Head Coach Mike Lopez and Assistant Coach José Rodriguez are hoping to see the underclassmen from this season return ready to put in extra work for next year's state playoffs.

Microsoft Certifications

Word

Jessica Gomez
Oscar Rodriguez
Solomon Scally-Rodriguez

Excel

Alex Arvizu

NHS chapter takes flight

By Kayleigh Wilke

Many of you may have heard of the National Honorary Society.

If you've been to other schools, you may have noticed distinctive torch-shaped pins on the backpacks of certain diligent students, or perhaps an ac-

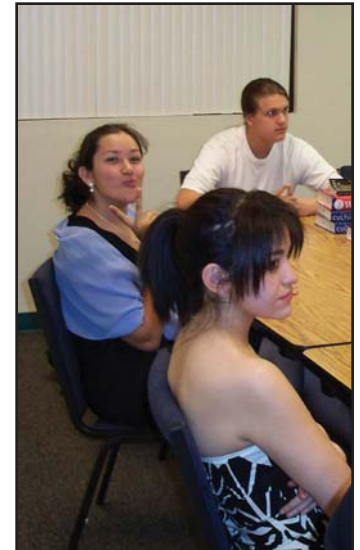
membership and code of conduct for potential and current members.

The society was founded in 1921 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) and the first chapter was headed by Dr. Edward Rynear-

self. There are also six honorary members: Michelle Burns-Neil, Chelsea Duran, Corwin Peña, Andrea Sanchez, Mary Skye, and Cheyenne VanAlst.

We hold meetings headed by Mrs. Haller, and will soon be hav-

US president; Cal Ripken Jr. of the Baltimore Orioles; Meryl Streep, actress; and Jon Voight, actor. Not to mention many of our own teachers, including Mr. Anthony, Mrs. Carpenter, Mrs. Cubillas, Mr. Fech, Mrs. Haller, Mrs. Kain, Mrs. Le-onetti, and Ms. Wechsler.



Photos by Mrs. Annie Carpenter
Left: NHS inductees Kayleigh Wilke, Jackee Walters and Annette Hill. Above: Annette Hill and her grandmother, Nana Lina. Right (Clockwise from left): Andrea Sanchez, Rory Ksionda and Rosse Gonzales

quaintance mentioned attending an NHS meeting. But do you really know about the organization itself?

The NHS operates on the principles of its mission statement, which is "to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools."

These four characteristics, Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character, form the criteria of

son, principal of the Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh, PA.

The organization grew amazingly, and by 1930 there were 1,000 chapters nationwide.

That number has increased greatly up to the present day, more than 80 years later, and has now gained one more member: our very own SACA now has a chapter itself. The official members include Annette Hill, Rosse Gonzales, Rory Ksionda, Jackee Walters, and my-

ing elections for chapter offices (president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer).

Distinguished alumni of the organization operate in every career field, from politics to sports, from acting to science and everything in between. Some names you might recognize are Troy Aikman of the Dallas Cowboys; Katie Couric of the "Today Show"; Jim Davis, creator of "Garfield"; Gloria Estefan, entertainer; Gerald Ford, former

Why not work towards joining this distinguished group of people?

It really can't hurt. Remember that GPA is an important issue, as it must be kept at 3.0 or higher.

Also, community service of one kind or another is eventually required, and you must be a junior or senior by next year to join.

Please speak to Mrs. Haller to determine your eligibility and remember, these sorts of things look great on college and scholarship applications!

Tips for Effective Writing

Taking aim at detail

By Mr. Mark Anthony Febbo

If there is one central idea that will help you to become a better writer and communicator, it just might be grasping the difference between that which is abstract and that which is concrete.

For the purpose of this lesson, we will consider the classification of nouns (persons, places and things) as either abstract or concrete.

First, let us define our basic terms. An abstraction is often a generalized concept that is difficult to define and cannot be physically weighed, measured or placed in a physical containment.

As nouns, these almost always fall into the category of "things" rather than persons or places since persons and places are usually

pretty specific; therefore, abstract nouns are things like love, hate, faith, wisdom and hope.

On the other hand, a noun that is concrete can easily be pictured, and it is something that can be physically weighed, measured or contained. These nouns often include persons and places, but are not limited to either of these categories.

A list of concrete nouns might include words like elephant, stapler, feather and globe.

So what? How can this concept be applied to your writing and communication process?

What really needs to be understood, is that abstractions carry little

SACA SUDOKU

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5						8	2	
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	7	8						9
7				8	5			
	8				1		5	2
	1		2			4		

Objective: Fill in the puzzle so that every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

weight when they are not tied to something specific or concrete. Think for a moment. What is love? What is hate? What is change? What is hope?

These words carry no meaning until they are grounded in the real world by specificity. For example, love is an easier idea to grasp if we think of the concrete image of a mother holding her newborn child cradled in her arms. Hate is easier to see and understand when we see two soldiers locked in intense and violent hand-to-hand combat.

If you make a conscious

effort to be as specific as possible in your writing by way of detail, the abstracts that you do use will begin to take shape instead of remaining lifeless blobs on the page.

Dates to Remember:

Senior Night
Thurs. March 27 - 7 p.m.

Honors Night
Thurs. May 15 - 7 p.m.

Gifted Night
Wed. April 23 - 7 p.m.

Graduation
Sat. June 21 - 10 a.m.

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"Where Life and Learning Connect"

MISSION STATEMENT

Our goal is to prepare mature high school students and adults (18 to 21 years old) in humanities and science for post secondary education, social responsibility, employability and lifelong learning.

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This Month in History with Mr. Fech & Mr. Rodriguez

"It's not enough that we do our best; sometimes we have to do what's required." – Winston Churchill

They say the weather in March comes "in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." For history, it seems to be just the opposite. We start the month off with the ratification of the first governing document in United States history. We end with a near nuclear disaster! March contains several successful and unsuccessful assassination attempts, including those against Julius Caesar, Adolf Hitler, Kim Il Sung, and Ronald Reagan. On a lighter note, March is the birth month of several positive historical contributors such as Michelangelo, Amerigo Vespucci, Alexander Graham Bell, and Yuri Gagarin.

March 1, 1781 - Formal ratification of the Articles of Confederation was announced by Congress. Under the Articles, Congress was the sole governing body of the new American national government, consisting of the 13 original states. The Articles remained in effect through the Revolutionary War until 1789, when the current U.S. Constitution was adopted.

March 6, 1836 - Fort Alamo fell to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna. The Mexicans began the siege of the Texas fort on February 23, ending it with the killing of the last defender. "Remember the Alamo" became a rallying cry for Texans who went on to defeat Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto in April.

March 11, 1918 - The "Spanish" influenza was first observed in America as 107 soldiers became sick at Fort Riley, Kansas. One quarter of the U.S. population eventually became ill from the deadly virus, resulting in 500,000 deaths. The death toll worldwide may have approached 100 million by the end of 1920.

March 15, 44 B.C. - Julius Caesar was assassinated in the Senate chamber in Rome by Brutus and fellow conspirators. After first trying to defend himself against the murderous onslaught, Caesar saw Brutus with a knife and asked "Et tu, Brute?" (You too, Brutus?) Caesar then gave up the struggle and was stabbed to death.

March 18, 1974 - The five-month-old Arab oil embargo against the U.S. was lifted. The embargo was in retaliation for American support of Israel during the Yom Kippur War of 1973 in which Egypt and Syria suffered a crushing defeat. In the U.S., the resulting embargo had caused long lines at gas stations as prices soared 300 percent amid shortages and a government ban on Sunday gas sales.

March 19, 2003 - The United States launched an attack against Iraq to topple Dictator Saddam Hussein from power. The attack commenced with aerial strikes

against military sites, followed the next day by an invasion of southern Iraq by U.S. and British ground troops. The troops made rapid progress northward and conquered the country's capital, Baghdad, just 21 days later, ending the rule of Saddam.

March 24, 1934 - The Philippine Islands in the South Pacific were granted independence by President Franklin D. Roosevelt after nearly 50 years of American control.

March 25, 1807 - The English Parliament abolished the slave trade following a long campaign against it by Quakers and political leaders such as William Wilberforce.

March 28, 1979 - Near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident occurred in which uranium in the reactor core overheated due to the failure of a cooling valve. A pressure relief valve then stuck causing the water level to plummet, threatening a catastrophic nuclear meltdown. The accident resulted in the release of radioactive steam into the atmosphere, and created a storm of controversy over the necessity and safety of nuclear power plants.